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PATENT
Docket No. 395/35

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : Gerard M. HOUSEY
Serial No. : Unassigned
Filing Date : Unassigned
For: : METHOD FOR SCREENING FOR PROTEIN
INHIBITORS AND ACTIVATORS
Examiner : Unassigned
Art Unit : Unassigned

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above application for patent as follows.

Please cancel claims 1-30, and add the following claims:

31. A pharmaceutical composition for treating a disease or other condition for which therapeutic treatment could be beneficial, which comprises a therapeutically effective amount of an inhibitor or activator of a protein which was characterized as an inhibitor or activator of the protein at least in part through a process comprising the steps of:

- (a) selecting a substance, which had not been previously administered as a treatment for the disease or other condition;

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- (b) providing a test cell in which the protein is present at a higher level relative to a control cell which produces the protein at a lower level or essentially does not produce the protein, and wherein production of the protein in the test cell evokes a responsive change in a phenotypic characteristic, other than the level of the protein in the cell, per se, which is comparatively greater than in the control cell;
- (c) treating the test cell containing the protein with the substance; and
- (d) examining the treated test cell to determine whether it exhibits a change in the phenotypic characteristic in response to the substance.

32. A substance which is an inhibitor or activator of a protein, the protein being functionally related to a disease or other condition for which therapeutic treatment could be beneficial, which was characterized as an inhibitor or activator of the protein at least in part through a process comprising the steps of:

- (a) selecting a substance which had not been previously administered for treatment of the disease or other condition;
- (b) providing a test cell in which the protein is present at a higher level relative to a control cell which produces the protein at a lower level or essentially does not produce the protein, and wherein production of the protein in the test cell evokes a responsive change in a phenotypic characteristic, other than the level of the protein in the cell, per se, which is comparatively greater than in the control cell;
- (c) treating the test cell containing the protein with the substance; and

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- (d) examining the treated test cell to determine whether it exhibits a change in the phenotypic characteristic in response to the substance.

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REMARKS

Claims 1 through 30 have been canceled, and new claims 31 and 32, directed to pharmaceutical compositions and substances, have been added. Favorable consideration and allowance of claims 31 and 32 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
KENYON & KENYON

Dated: February 22, 2000

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